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JUL 25 2005**FAX COVER SHEET**NO. OF PAGES: COVER SHEET PLUS 13 PAGE(S)TO: Examiner Julian W. Wood Group Art Unit 3731FAX TELEPHONE NO.: (571) 273-8300FROM: Gary M. GronDATE: July 25, 2005☐ **CONFIRMATION OF RECEIPT REQUESTED IF CHECKED.**☐ **WILL** ☐ **BY MAIL** ☐ **BY COURIER****ORIGINAL COPY AND ANY ENCLOSURES BE SENT**☒ **WILL NOT**

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In re patent application of:)
Hathaway) Before the Examiner
Serial No. 10/008,781) Woo, Julian W.
Filed November 13, 2001)
APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR)
POSITIVE CLOSURE OF AN)
INTERNAL TISSUE MEMBRANE)
OPENING) July 25, 2005

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 25, 2005, Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments and consideration of the accompanying remarks.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this transmittal.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this transmittal.

Additionally, please provide any extensions of time that may be necessary and charge any fees that may be due to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but do not include any payment of issue fees that are or may become due.

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